

# CARTSNEWS

*The Official Journal of the Carolina Token Society*

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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Greetings to all CARTS members,

Fall is knocking at the door and that means coin show season in the Carolinas! With three major shows in October (the NCNA Convention in Greensboro on the first weekend, a large show in Charlotte on the second weekend, and the SCNA Convention on the last weekend), there should be plenty of tokens and medals available for sale.

But if you couldn't make any of those shows, you can always come to our November meeting. We have arranged for a meeting room in a hotel in **Spartanburg on November 8<sup>th</sup>**. Please see elsewhere in this issue for directions and hours. I hope we can have a good turnout this time, as I was a little disappointed in the number of attendees at our Spring meeting.

That's it for now. See you guys in November!

Tony Chibbaro  
President of CARTS

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Comments, suggestions, reactions, (maybe even) criticism, will be gratefully accepted. Let us know!  
**Articles, New Finds, Announcements, and Classifieds to Don Bailey only! Dues to Bob King only!**

## WHAT'S HAPPENING?

The most important thing happening is our **November 8 meeting at the Holiday Inn Express, 161 Sha Lane, Spartanburg, SC**. The hotel is off Interstate 85 at exit 78. If coming from the west, exit, turn left and cross I-85. Once you are across the interstate, turn right onto Sha Lane—between the Sunoco station and the Subway sandwich shop. You will see the hotel just ahead. Coming from the east, exit, turn right, and turn right again almost immediately onto Sha Lane. If you approach Spartanburg from the north or south on I-26, go east when you intersect I-85 and proceed as above. We have a large room (all CARTS members could be accommodated) from **8:00 AM 'til noon**. Hope to see you there!

## NEW NORTH CAROLINA FIND

**Don Bailey**

I was recently fortunate enough to obtain the token shown below.



It is brass and measures 30 mm. A.M. Prince & Co. is listed in East Arcadia from 1907 through 1909 as a manufacturer of lumber. Prince apparently also had businesses in Scotland Neck and Holly Ridge at various times. Hopefully more information will appear in a future issue.

## North Carolina Collector

Buyer of NC Singles or Collections  
Trader list for all state tokens  
Enthusiastic researcher

Robert S. King, 709 Cardinal Dr.  
Brevard, NC 28712

828-883-8028 [tokenadict@citcom.net](mailto:tokenadict@citcom.net)

Want to buy southern states tokens. You price or I will make an offer, your, choice. I don't make flea market offers. Pay top dollar for tokens I need and top wholesale for tokens I have.

I want mavericks and one is fine. Give me a chance, we will make a deal.

**Active buyer of R. G. Dun and Bradstreet**  
1963 & newer  
Need 1882, 1884 & 1897  
Need a complete national book for 1910, 1911 or 1912.

## NEW LOVELACE N. C. CASH STORE FIND

**Lamar Bland**



The new find is a 5, comparable to the tokens previously known in the Lovelace Cash Store series—the 10, 50, and \$1.00 reported in a

November, 2011 *CARTSNEWS* article. It is fully legible, but too worn to be photographed successfully. The photo above shows the obverse side of the \$1.00, which the 5 replicates in design. The 5 is aluminum and measures 21mm; the reverse reads:

**GOOD FOR / 5 / IN / MERCHANDISE.**

Dun and Bradstreet records indicate a Jennings Cash Store in Lovelace from 1905 to 1908. Turner Jennings probably sold his building afterwards to W.J. Templeton, who kept it until “Commie” Comer bought it from him in 1917. Comer operated the store until he built another store in the adjoining county in 1935.

No tokens from Lovelace have surfaced naming Jennings, Templeton or Comer. The Lovelace Cash Store series, then, must have appeared sometime between 1910 and 1930, probably in the earlier years.

### **SOUTHERN CASH STORES: THEIR EVOLUTION AND SCARCITY**

When I found the latest Lovelace Cash Store token mentioned above, I remembered discovering David Silkenat's book *MOMENTS OF DESPAIR: SUICIDE, DIVORCE, AND DEBT IN CIVIL WAR ERA NORTH CAROLINA* (U.N.C. Press, 2011). I reread his chapter—“General Stores, Pawnshops, and Boardinghouses in the New South,”—which describes differing practices among southern stores after the Civil War. The Dun Mercantile information he cites claims there were as many as 6,000 general stores in North Carolina by 1900. Their two main practices were to:

- exchange their goods in barter for neighborhood produce,
- release their goods, carefully inventoried, on credit.

His research indicated that “a 50 percent markup was not uncommon” when credit was involved. Store failures therefore happened—at a stunning 33% rate in the years between 1870 and 1900. So many failures meant that innovation needed to occur in their services.

The Cash Store, which offered lower prices for cash payments, entered as a successful post-war innovation. With some exceptions, it was found in rural areas, where an already established merchant

knew customers and families. Personal relationships were enhanced further, Silkenat believes, because the southern purchasers felt “equivalence” in cash exchanges after their long experience of “indebtedness” during the Civil War. One successful “cash” merchant whom Silkenat quotes stated: “When a fellow buys something and pays cash he just naturally feels good. He doesn’t have that trade hanging over him.” Cash Stores were never as pervasive, however, as the stores which operated in the more traditional tracks. Perhaps as many as one in 10 stores operated on a cash basis in the years Silkenat studied. When you multiply the 6,000 stores in operation by 10%, then multiply that product by 33% (the estimated failure rate, which would have included Cash Stores), the resulting number of North Carolina Cash Stores in operation between 1870 and 1900 is around 150 to 200.

No one knows how many of these stores used tokens to advertize their “cash” practice, but it must have been a small fraction of the 150-200. In my collection of a dozen or so North Carolina store tokens, I found only 2 reading “Cash Store.” Below is an image of one of them, which researcher Bob King believes indicates a store operated around the turn of the century by the father of C.A. Thomas in Stony Point, N.C. (Alexander County). The token is brass and measures 33 mm.



(I did not include Ingle or Orco store tokens when I made my count, since none that I have seen name a “cash” practice.) When I scanned Don Bailey’s index of articles published in the first 40 issues of *CARTSNEWS*, I found reference to only 3 Cash Stores in N.C.—one in Chapel Hill, one in Charles, and one in Lovelace. All three could have been operating in the first two decades of 1900, perhaps earlier.

These data, which complement Silkenat’s research, therefore suggest that “Cash Store” tokens deserve

designation as a sub-group of rare early Southern tokens. They continued to surface in the later years of the twentieth century, but still infrequently. The more a credit economy ascends, the less often they appear.

## NEW FINDS FROM SOUTH CAROLINA

**Tony Chibbaro**

The last three months have brought a veritable deluge of new finds from South Carolina. There are no less than 9 tokens from newly discovered issuers. If one adds in the new denominations from previously known issuers, there are over 20. But I will keep this article focused on the newly discovered companies only. As you peruse the article, you will note that there is a new town, also.

### **The Charleston Hardware Company, Charleston, SC**



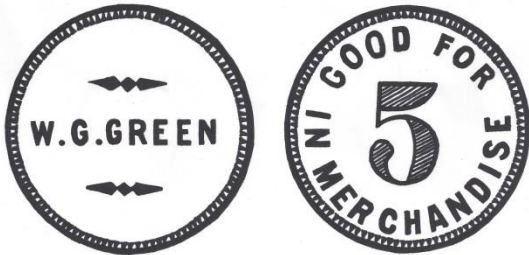
**5 Cents token issued by The Charleston Hardware Co., aluminum, 23mm**

William W. Meggett (1876-1946) founded The Charleston Hardware Company in December of 1902. He had previously been employed as a clerk in the hardware stores of C.P. Poppenheim and M.H. Sanders. Meggett’s store was located on “Upper” King Street (north end), near the intersection with Cannon. Directory advertisements listed his inventory as “hardware, cutlery, guns, agricultural implements, saddlery, and house furnishing goods.” In 1913, Meggett closed this store and partnered with E.E. Jagar in a paint store at 430 King. A year later he was the vice president of Boyle Hardware Company at 568



King. By 1920, he had moved away from Charleston and was managing an insurance agency in Summerville, and by 1930, he had moved again, this time to Martin County, Florida, and was employed as a salesman in a hardware store in the town of Stuart.

### W.G. Green, Charleston, SC



5 Cents token issued by W.G. Green, aluminum, 19mm

Early in his business career, Walter G. Green (1868-1946) worked as a clerk in the shoe store of M. Drake & Son. Within 15 years he had risen to president of the Drake-Innes-Green Shoe Company, a retailer and wholesale distributor of boots and shoes. He also branched out into other business endeavors, opening a general store near Charleston and founding the Leaphart Lumber Company. The latter firm had sawmills in at least three South Carolina locations in the early 1900s—one near Kingstree in Williamsburg County, one near Lake City in Florence County, and one near Irmo in Lexington County. All three locations had logging railroads, but it is not clear if they all operated concurrently. It is also not clear whether Green's general store near Charleston was the commissary for another of his lumbering concerns, but it operated for some length of time—from 1905 to 1924. In 1923, Green made another change in his business pursuits, becoming president of Glencoe Cotton Mills in Alamance County, NC. His wife, daughter of mill founder James H. Holt, had inherited ownership of the mill upon the death of her brother, Robert Holt. Green managed the mill until their son, Walter G. Green, Jr., took over control around 1940.

### Smith-Dumas Drug Co., Charleston, SC



5 Cents token issued by Smith-Dumas Drug Co., aluminum, 20mm

After graduating from pharmacy school, Frank M. Smith (1871-1946) clerked in the downtown Charleston drug stores of E.S. Burnham and Henry Plenge for about 5 years. In 1895, he opened his own pharmacy at 158 Wentworth Street, operating there for some 15 years before taking a partner into the business. Lucian Y. Dumas (1888-1918) had been out of pharmacy school for only 2 years when he became Smith's partner. The store on Wentworth was renamed Smith & Dumas and the two also opened a new pharmacy at 279 King Street called the Frank M. Smith Drug Company. This store was sold to Dr. W.C. DeLorme in 1912 and another drug store was opened in its stead at 129 Rutledge Street. The new store was called the Smith-Dumas Drug Company and was the location for which the token described above was issued.

Smith and Dumas dissolved their partnership in January of 1917 and both remaining stores were sold. Dumas was then drafted into the U.S. Army and was attached to the medical supply depot at Camp Wadsworth in Spartanburg County. Tragically, he died in October of 1918 at the age of 30, a victim of the infamous influenza pandemic of 1918. Frank Smith went on to become, in succession, secretary of the State Board of Pharmacy, assistant registrar of the Medical College of South Carolina, secretary of the SC Pharmacy Association, and secretary of the Charleston County Board of Assessments.

## Oregon Pharmacy, Greenwood, SC



**One Drink token issued by Oregon Pharmacy, tan cardboard, 38x76mm**

The Oregon Pharmacy opened in 1908 in the bottom floor of the Oregon Hotel building, but it was not the first drug store associated with the historic hotel. That distinction belongs to the Oregon Drug & Book Store which was run by J. Sims Andrews, a non-pharmacist who likely sold only non-prescription drugs. That store closed in 1907 and was replaced by the Oregon Pharmacy, a full service drug store operated by Ernest L. Norris (1880-1960). Norris moved his store across the street in 1912 when a disastrous fire destroyed the Oregon Hotel. When the newly rebuilt hotel opened two years later, Norris moved his pharmacy into the new fireproof office building attached to the hotel.

In 1916, Norris incorporated his pharmacy, serving as president and treasurer, with business partner H. K. Thayer acting as secretary. The two also owned the nearby Oregon Jewelry Company. In the mid-1920s, Norris sold his share of the business and moved to Athens, GA, opening a retail hardware store. The Oregon Pharmacy continued to be operated until the mid-1950s.

## Red River Stores, Red River, SC



**10 Cents token issued by Red River Stores, aluminum, 24mm**

The area known as Red River is an unincorporated community in eastern York County, situated 4 miles northeast of downtown Rock Hill and about a half mile west of the Catawba River. Originally called Carhartt or Carhartt Station, the community was founded circa 1910 as a mill village for Carhartt Cotton Mill No. 2. Located nearby was Nation Ford, an important crossing on the Catawba River, used by the Catawba tribe of Native Americans since prehistoric times. The name of the community was changed to Red River after the Carhartt Mill became Red River Cotton Mills in 1925. The post office, which went by the name Carhartt from 1919 to 1924, was re-designated as Red River and operated as such from 1927 to 1933. In the 1950s and 1960s, the area was called Cel River because of a Celanese Corporation plant which was built nearby. Population: 500 (1930); 80 (2000).

The Red River Stores Company was incorporated in June of 1930 by York Wilson and W.B. Klugh. The firm operated as the company store for the cotton mill run by Wilson in the community of Red River. It was in business for only three years, closing sometime in 1933.

In 1925, York L. Wilson (1893-1962) was the leader of a group of investors who purchased Hamilton Carhartt Cotton Mill No. 2, a mill which had been founded about 1910 to make denim for Carhartt's widespread enterprises. The plant had been idle for over a year and Wilson's group planned to refit it to make cotton drills. The mill was renamed Red River Cotton Mills and it housed 8100 spindles and 210 looms. When a sufficient amount of business failed to materialize, the company went into receivership in the late 1920s and all its assets were sold at auction in 1930. Wilson, who was the son-in-law of textile magnate Alexander Long, was hired by the new owners to run the mill as York Wilson Mill. He did so for several years, but the company never prospered. Around 1935, Wilson moved to Beaufort County and opened a general store in Pritchardville and a gas station in Bluffton. In 1944, the mill was purchased by David LaFar, Jr. and was renamed

Randolph Yarns, Inc. LaFar's firm made yarns for apparel, furnishings, and industrial products. It closed in December of 2000 and the mill was demolished in April of 2001.

The token is from a series of denominations, of which four are known today – 50 cents, 25 cents, 10 cents, and 1 cent. Three of these have long been known to collectors, but were incorrectly attributed as issues of the Red River Lumber Company in Frostville, Arkansas. Both Tom Robinson, in his book on Arkansas tokens, and Terry Trantow, in his lumber token catalog, had listed them as such. But the tokens rightfully belong to South Carolina as evidenced by two of them being unearthed in Bluffton in 2009. Although Bluffton is in Beaufort County and at least 200 miles from Red River, it was established in the narrative above that York Wilson, the owner of the Red River Stores, moved to Beaufort County in the mid-1930s and opened a gas station in Bluffton, as well as a general store in Pritchardville. It is not outside the realm of possibility that Wilson also utilized his Red Rivers Stores tokens in Beaufort County.

### **Industrial Cotton Mills Co., Rock Hill, SC**



**Beaming Room token issued by Industrial Cotton Mills Co., aluminum, 29mm**

The Industrial Cotton Mills Company was founded in 1921 during the reorganization of the failed Jobber's Overall Company of Lynchburg, Virginia. The latter firm had purchased Manchester Mills of Rock Hill (see below) in the late 1910s and had made significant additions to the plant and mill village, but went into bankruptcy soon after the purchase. The new firm was capitalized at \$2.9 million and was headed by Alexander

Long (1858-1932). In 1940, the mill operated 1088 looms and 30,000 spindles and specialized in the manufacture of denims and other cotton goods. The company was successful and eventually became a division of Springs Industries. Alexander Long went on to become the president of Aragon-Baldwin Mills, which operated three textile plants in South Carolina. The Manchester-Industrial mill building was demolished in the late 1980s, but many of the houses that were part of the sprawling mill village remain.

The token was utilized as a work tally in the mill's beaming room, which was an area used for winding yarns onto long cylinders called beams in preparation for weaving.

### **Manchester Mills, Rock Hill, SC**



**25 Cents token issued by Manchester Mills, brass, 29mm**

Organized in 1896 by John R. Barron and a group of fellow Rock Hill businessmen, Manchester Cotton Mills was located in the eastern sector of the city, near present day Dave Lyle Boulevard. Barron (1858-1933) was a native of York County and had previously operated a general store in the town of Clover. He was elected president and treasurer of the company and also functioned as the chief cotton buyer. The mill was originally equipped with 300 looms and 18,000 spindles and manufactured yarns, tickings, and cotton sheetings. Employment was in the range of 300 to 350 operatives. Barron led the company for 25 years, stepping down when it was sold to Jobber's Overall Company of Lynchburg, VA. The mill was renamed Blue Buckle Cotton Mills and was



outfitted to make denim for the company's famous Blue Buckle Overalls. The new owners constructed a large addition to the mill and, anticipating a much larger work force, added over 100 houses to its mill village. Plans went awry, however, when the Virginia owners went bankrupt in 1920. The mill then passed into the hands of the Industrial Cotton Mills Company in a reorganization of the failed Jobber's Overall Company. (See immediately above for more information.)

Even with all the historical information outlined above, the attribution of this token to Rock Hill is tentative and unverified. The token pictured above was purchased in Charlotte, NC, which is only about 20 miles from Rock Hill. But tokens from this company have also been discovered in Virginia and California. The token was manufactured by Dorman Stencil and Stamp Works of Baltimore, MD. Other tokens manufactured by Dorman with this reverse die have been shown to have been issued in the 1870s and 1880s. As referenced above, Manchester Mills was not organized until 1896, which does not entirely coincide with the alleged time period of the use of the reverse die.

### China's Drug Store, Sumter, SC



5 Cents Soda Water token issued by China's Drug Store, aluminum, 26mm

Dr. Alfred J. China (1838-1910) practiced medicine in Sumter for over 40 years and was one of the city's leading citizens during the second half of the 19th century. Returning to

his hometown after serving as a surgeon in the Confederate Army during the Civil War, China set up a medical office and drug store on Main Street in the late 1860s. Over the next four decades he maintained both a busy medical practice and his drug store, as well as other business affairs. In 1902, upon the death of R.M. Wallace, China was made president of the First National Bank of Sumter. In 1906, he incorporated his drug store with pharmacist and business partner, R. Sumter Williams. China was also the president of the Kennedy Building Supply Company. He died in 1910 and was buried in Sumter Cemetery.

### Warrenville Mill Store, Warrenville, SC



5 Cents token issued by Warrenville Mill Store, aluminum, 26mm

The Warrenville Mill Store operated as the company store for the Warren Manufacturing Company in the early 1900s. The Warren Manufacturing Company was incorporated in 1897 by Charles Warren Davis (1848-1921) of Graniteville, along with a consortium of local and Northern interests. The company had its main offices in Augusta, Georgia, while the mill was located on the South Carolina side of the Savannah River in the Horse Creek Valley. The mill building, which was finished in 1898, housed 1000 looms and 35,000 spindles, and employed 400 operatives. Print cloths were the primary product. President and treasurer of the firm was E.F. Verdery, an Augusta lawyer and a veteran of the Civil War. Verdery (1843-1921) ran the company for over 20 years and was also the president of Orangeburg Manufacturing Company and Bamberg Cotton Mills. In 1923, the firm was

taken over by the Graniteville Manufacturing Company, although the mill continued to operate as Warren Manufacturing Company. In 1996, the Graniteville Company was bought out by Avondale Mills, a large textile

conglomerate and one of the largest denim manufacturers in the United States. The mill building still remains in Warrenton, but now sits empty and awaits restoration.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

### WANTED

**WILL PAY \$250 FOR A MAVERICK TOKEN FROM THE ARUNDEL MERCANTILE COMPANY.** Also looking for other rare South Carolina tokens. Tony Chibbaro, PO Box 420, Prosperity, SC 29127, phone: 803-530-3668, email: [chibbaro@mindspring.com](mailto:chibbaro@mindspring.com)

**NEW MEMBERS.** You know what a great newsletter we have, and what great meetings occur twice a year. Let your buddies in on the fun. Recruit a member.

**DO YOU HAVE DUPLICATE TOKENS?** I have NC Tokens to trade for your duplicates. I will pay cash if you prefer. I will send a postal money order or check and a self-addressed stamped shipper for your convenience. Bob King, 709 Cardinal Dr., Brevard, NC 28712  
[tokenaddict@citcom.net](mailto:tokenaddict@citcom.net) 828-883-8028

### SALE OR TRADE

**COMPLETE SEVEN PIECE SET OF ORA MILL TOKENS FROM SHELBY, NC.** Yes, it includes the \$5.00. Yours for \$50.00, postpaid. Don Bailey, PO Box 1272, Etowah, NC 28729. [eladon@morrisbb.net](mailto:eladon@morrisbb.net) or 828-891-3501.

**CARTS Membership and Dues:** Application for membership in CARTS is invited from anyone interested in the exonomia of the two Carolinas. Annual dues are \$10.00 and should be mailed to the treasurer, Bob King. Checks should be made payable to CARTS.

**CARTSNEWS:** CARTSNEWS, the newsletter of CARTS, is published four times per year in February, May, August, and November.

**Advertising:** Each member is encouraged to submit one classified ad per issue. These ads are free to members. Free ads should be no more than 50 words in length. No ads will be run continuously; a new ad must be submitted for each issue. The editor reserves the right to edit ads for length and any ad thought not to be in the best interest of the hobby will be rejected. Deadline for classified ads is the same as for paid ads (see below).

Paid advertising is also solicited. The rate per issue for paid ads is as follows. One quarter page \$3.00, one half page \$6.00, and full page \$11.00. Any paid advertising, along with payment, should be sent to the editor by the fifteenth of that month before the month of issue. So, for example, advertising copy for the May issue should be received by the editor by April 15. Camera ready copy will be accepted, but the editor will also compose ads from your rough copy if you desire. As with free advertising the editor may reject any ad thought not in the best interest of CARTS or the hobby at large.